

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
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-----037184 200537Z /73

R 181530Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5540
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY BANGUI

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 2488

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR OAU CM CD FR
SUBJECT: CHAD AND CAMERNEN

REF: YAOUNDE 2384

1. EMBASSY HAS LEARNED OF ADDITONAL CHADIAN DEVELOPMENTS AS
THEY AFFECT CAMEROON FROM CANADIAN, EGYPTIAN, FRENCH, AND
MOROCCAN SOURCES.

2. ACCORDING TO RAOUF SAAD OF SGYPTIAN EMBASSY AND SAID
BENTAME OF MOROCCAN EMBASSY, GENERAL MALLOUM DURING HIS RECENT
VISIT BROUGHT UP THE SUBJECT OF TRANSIT OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT
DESTINED FOR CHAD AND REQUESTED THAT IN VIEW OF THE PRESENT
SITUATION, THE CAMEROON GOVERNMENT PERMIT ITS EXPEDITIOUS
ONWARD SHIPMENT. COLONEL RIAC, FRENCH MILITARY ATTACHE, WHEN
ASKED ABOUT THIS MATTER SAID THAT HE DID NOT KNOW IF IT WAS
DISCUSSED BETWEEN PRESIDENT AHIDJO AND GENERAL MALLOUM.
HOWEVER, THE FRENCH WERE HAVING NO DIFFICULTY WHATSOEVER
IN MILITARY EQUIPMENT SHIPMENTS TRANSITING DOUALA DESTINED
FOR NDJAMENA. HE SAID THAT ALL SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT EQUIP-
MENT WERE BEING SENT TO NDJAMENA BY PLANE AND THAT VEHICLES
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AND OTHER HEAVY EQUIPMENT WERE SENT BY TRAIN. WHEN ASKED
IF ANY ARMORED CARS WERE INVOLVED, HE RESPONDED IN THE
NEGATIVE AND ADDED THAT THE HEAVIEST EQUIPMENT WAS WHAT HE
CHARACTERIZED AS HEAVY MACHINE GUNS. HE ADDED THAT THERE WAS ONLY
ONE ADDITIONAL SMALL RUSSIAN ARMS SHIPMENT.

3. ACCORDING TO CANADIAN DCM, DIAVID COYLE, DURING PRESIDENT

AHIDJO'S RECENT VISIT TO PARIS PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTANG RAISED THE QUESTION OF CAMEROON PERMITTING FRENCH CITIZENS FROM CHAD FREE ACCESS WITHOUT VISAS IN THE EVENT THERE WAS A FURTHER DETERIORATION IN THE CHADIAN SITUATION. AHIDJO RESPONDED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM. BENTAMA OF MOROCCAN EMBASSY SAID MALLOUM HAD RAISED SAME QUESTION WITH AHIDJO, BUT CONCERNING THIRD COUNTRY NATIONAL IN GENERAL. COYLE, WHO HAS JUST RETURNED FROM A TRIP TO SOUTHERN CHAD TO REASSURE HIS CITIZENS, RAISED THE QUESTION OF CANADIAN CITIZENS BEING PERMITTED INTO CAMEROON WITH ACTING DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL, FRANCIS NKWAIN, AND COYLE WAS ALSO ASSURED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM.
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